

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 /080 W

----- 100111

R 061013Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5751

INFO AMEMBASSY ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

SUCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 9444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ET SO

SUBJ: EPMG MORE RELAXED ABOUT "SOMALI THREAT"

1. LIJ MIKAEL IMRU, POLAD TO EPMG CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE, TOLD AMB AUG 5 THAT AS RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SOMALI PRESIDENT SIAD AND PMAC CHAIRMAN, IN KAMPALA OAU CONTEXT LAST WEEK, AS WELL AS OTHER (UNSPECIFIED) DEVELOPMENTS, EPMG NO LONGER ASSIGNS SAME DEGREE OF IMMINENCE TO PROSPECTS FOR A SOMALI ATTACK ON ETHIOPIA. SOMALI INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES, INCLUDING ECONOMIC AND REFUGEE PROBLEMS, WERE FACTORS IN EPMG ASSESSMENT. LIJ MIKAEL SAID EPMG WAS STILL CONCERNED ABOUT SOMALI PREPONDERANCE IN MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE STEPS TO REMEDY THE IMBALANCE, BUT WITH SOMEWHAT DECREASED SENSE OF URGNCY.

2. LIJ MIKAEL ASKED AMB WHETHER IT WAS TRUE THAT USG HAS PLACED LESS EMPHASIS ON SOMALI THREAT THAN EPMG HAS. AMB  
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SAID THAT HAD BEEN GENERALLY TRUE, BUT USG HAD AT NO TIME

BELIEVED THE THREAT TO BE NEGLIGIBLE OR NONEXISTENT. INTERNAL PROBLEMS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES COULD ACTUALLY INCREASE SOMALI BELLICOSITY BY TEMPTING SOME SOMALIS TO USE AN EXTERNAL CONFLICT AS UNIFYING FACTOR, AND TO DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES. ON OTHER HAND, IT SEEMED TO USG THAT SOVIET INTERESTS IN AFRICA WOULD BE VERY SERIOUSLY HARMED IF THEIR CLIENT STATE USED SOVIET-SUPPLIED WEAPONS IN AN AGGRESSIVE ATTACK, AND THAT SOVS WOULD PROBABLY EXERT A STRONG RESTRAINING INFLUENCE ON SOMALIA.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS A FEW OTHER REPORTS ALSO INDICATION THAT EPMG IS NO LONGER FIRMLY PREDICTING SOMALI ATTACK THIS SUMMER AFTER PRESIDENT SIAD RELINQUISHED CHAIRMANSHIP OF OAU. HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, INVASIONS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ADDIS09444  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750271-0555  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 MAY 2003  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EPMG MORE RELAXED ABOUT "SOMALI THREAT"  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ET, SO, (SIAD BARRE, MOHAMED), (LIJ MIKAEL IMRU), (TEFERI BANTI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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